

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a plurality of string objects, the method comprising:

selecting one of a plurality of sort order criteria;

wherein each of the plurality of sort order criteria is based on string-object information of the string objects themselves and the string object information comprises a compound object containing more than a textual description or string;

sorting a plurality of said string objects based on the selected sort order of said string objects; and

displaying a plurality of said string objects in the selected sort order.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein an identifier is provided for each of said plurality of sort order criteria; wherein a user may select one of the identifiers; and wherein if none of the identifiers is selected, then a default sort order is designated and a plurality of said string objects are sorted and displayed according to the default sort order criteria.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the default sort order is pre-selected by the user or a system.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

further dividing the plurality of said sting objects into a plurality of groups;

selecting one of said plurality of groups; and

displaying the string objects of the selected group in a manner that is different from a manner of displaying the string objects of other groups.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

further dividing the plurality of said string objects into a plurality of groups;
selecting one of said plurality of groups; and
moving a cursor to the location of the string objects of the selected group.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 4, wherein said different manner of displaying string objects comprises at least one of blinking, changing the font, enlarging the size, highlighting and changing color of the string objects.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 4 or 5,
wherein an identifier is provided for each group;
wherein a user may select one of the identifiers; and
wherein if none of the identifiers is selected, then a default group is designated, and string objects of the default group are displayed in a manner that is different from a manner of displaying the string objects of other groups or the cursor is moved to the location of the string objects of the selected group.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 7,
wherein the identifiers of groups that belong to different sort order criteria are displayed simultaneously; and
wherein the string objects are re-sorted if the selected group does not belong to the current sort order criteria.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the default group is pre-selected by the user or a system.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 4 wherein the number of the plurality of groups is decided by the number of identifiers that can be displayed or the number of objects included in the groups.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said sort order criteria consists of at least one, of alphabet order, Pinyin order, Zhuyin order, stroke order, stroke count order, radical order, kana order and Korean character order.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said string objects are one of personal data in an address book, links of Internet addresses, file names or another list of text.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for displaying a plurality of string objects, comprising:

a storage means for storing a plurality of said string objects;

an input means for entering user commands;

a sorting means for responding to a sort order criteria selected from a plurality of sort order criteria by a user, wherein each of the plurality of sort order criteria is based on string object information of the string objects themselves, wherein the string object information comprises a compound object containing more than a textual description or string, retrieving a plurality of said string objects from said storage device, and sorting the plurality of said string objects based on the selected sort order criteria of the string objects; and

a display means for displaying a plurality of said string objects in the selected sort order.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein an identifier is provided for each of said plurality of sort order criteria on said display means;

wherein the user may select one of the identifiers by said input means; and

wherein if none of the identifiers is selected, then a default sort order criteria is designated and a plurality of said string objects are sorted and displayed according to the default sort order criteria.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein the default sort order is pre-selected by the user or a system.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, further comprising:

a grouping means for further dividing the sorted string objects into a plurality of groups;

selecting one of said plurality of groups; and displaying the string objects of the selected group in a manner that is different from a manner of displaying the string objects of other groups.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, further comprising:

a grouping means for further dividing the sorted string objects into a plurality of groups;

selecting one of said groups; and

moving a cursor to the location of string objects of the selected group.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 16, wherein the different manner of displaying string objects comprises at least one of blinking, changing the font, enlarging the size, highlighting and changing color of the string objects.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 16 or 17, wherein an identifier is provided for each group on said display means; wherein a user may select one of the identifiers; and

wherein if none of the identifiers is selected, then a default group is designated, and only the string objects of the default group are displayed or the first string object of the default group is highlighted.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein the identifiers of groups that belong to different sort order criteria are displayed simultaneously; and wherein the string objects are re-sorted if the selected group does not belong to the current sort order criteria.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein the default group is pre-selected by the user or a system.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 16 or 17, wherein the number of groups is decided by the number of identifiers that can be displayed or the number of objects included in the groups.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 13, wherein said sort order criteria consists of at least one of alphabet order, Pinyin order, Zhuyin order, stroke order, stroke count order, radical order, kana order and Korean character order.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein said string objects are one of personal data in an address book, links of Internet addresses, file names or another list of text.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein said apparatus is one of a computer, a personal digital assistant, a mobile phone, a smart phone or another electrical device that is capable of displaying text information.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the default sort order is that which was in place the last time that the method was used.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the default sort order is decided by an algorithm.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the default group is that which was in place the last time that the method was used.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the default group is decided by an algorithm.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein the default sort order is that which was in place the last time that the method was used.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein the default sort order is decided by an algorithm.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein the default group is that which was in place the last time that the method was used.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein the default group is decided by an algorithm.